



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE

City of San Diego
Sixth District

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 27, 2006
TO: Mayor Jerry Sanders
FROM: Councilmember Donna Frye
SUBJECT: Unauthorized Service Level Cuts

The City Council was informed yesterday that the Mayor's office has cut the Blue Level Swim Program, which has been funded in the Park and Recreation Department's Aquatics Program since 2000 and was funded again by the City Council in the fiscal year 2006-2007 budget. Despite the fact that the City Council specifically authorized funding for this program, the city sent a letter to program participants that the program was cut due to a lack of sufficient funding. It is my understanding that this is not an isolated incident. Funding for the *Take Back the Streets* Program has been split up between Alpha Project and Environmental Services, despite the fact that the City Council allocated \$300,000 in the budget for a contract for *Take Back the Streets*.

Under the current form of government any significant budget changes the Mayor's office wishes to make should be heard and approved by the City Council before being implemented. It is my understanding that the Mayor's office cannot make unilateral decisions on service cuts and program reductions in a budget previously approved by the City Council. Therefore, the above mentioned budget changes should be reversed until such a time when the issue is brought before the City Council for discussion. I also request that the Mayor's office inform the City Council of any additional modifications to the budget that have been made without Council discussion and approval.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Your timely response is greatly appreciated.

Cc: City Councilmembers
City Attorney, Michael Aguirre
Independent Budget Analyst, Andrea Tevlin

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